THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1870.

The Chicago Tribune.

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WASHINGTON.

Three Senators and Representatives Admitted to Seats.

Representative Conner Makes His Initial Speech.

The National Bank Men Before the Banking Committee.

The Legal Tender Decision.

Attorney General Hoar Argues in Favor of its Reversal.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

THE NATIONAL BANK MEN HAVE ANOTHER HEARING.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The National Bank men had a long talk this morning with the House Committee on Banking, on the subject of the Funding Bill and the banking question generally. Brief speeches were made and papers answered by Messrs. Hall, of Boston; Calhoun, of New York; Gilpin, of Dep't Clerk, of Philadelphia; Huntington, of Washington; Babt, of St. Louis, and Sherman and Merrill, of Chicago. The wish of the committee seemed to be to get the views of the commercial men on the subject of free banking. These gentlemen were unanimous in saying that nothing at free banking could be done under the Funding Bill, but were divided in opinion as to what might be done under an extension of the present bank law. The committee did not give any indication of its own views, but the impression was that they were greatly pleased with the interview and would undoubtedly be aided in reaching wise conclusions by the facts, figures, and suggestions presented. One or two of the bank men had a conference this afternoon with the Secretary of the Treasury about the Funding Bill. They want the compulsory section stricken out. They do not believed they made suggestions that will be accepted by way of compromise. They object to the three per cent gold bonds, and to the clause which requires the banks to deposit bonds with Mr. Sharpe as Comptroller. He was willing the bonds should be fixed at 90 per cent as in the present law, and as the only object was to secure sufficient protection, he didn't know but 85 would be sufficient—ninety-five per cent. They were satisfied that it should remain at ninety per cent. Mr. Sherman says he is willing now to have the Fund. The Secretary also said he was willing to exempt the banks from State and municipal taxation on so much of their capital as is represented by bonds. They asked that the time of option for payment of 3 per cents and 6's per cent bonds, in the new bill, be extended, and thought the Secretary would be willing to concede something on this point. They further asked for a reduction of the 3 per cent tax on circulation. The Secretary said this was higher than is necessary, and he would agree to some reduction, though he did not say how much. The Secretary also assisted to know if the gentlemen thought the National Banks would come into the provisions of the proposed law if those changes were made. He apparently inferred that they probably would, though it would be well to cut out the clause coercing them. They were afraid of that, because if they are now coerced on the 6 per cent bonds, so one can tell how soon some future Congress may want to coerce them on 3 per cent bonds. It was held that they and the Treasury would be much better together in harmony if all coercive measures are abandoned and the bill is fairly amended, so that they can have no true basis of complaint. The bank men leave the city with the conviction that this will be done.

CONGRESS OF TEXAS.

The House had the spiciest time of the session to-day over the proposition to pay in the Texas members, which brought up the question of the status of Conner, one of the members-elect, who is in an officer of the regular army, and a Democrat. The whole question of Funding, Banking, Currency, the Committee on Elections, reported unanimously in favor of the candidates who held certificates from the Governor of Texas; Colfax, of New York; Gilpin, of Dep't Clerk, of Philadelphia; Huntington, of Washington; Babt, of St. Louis, and Sherman and Merrill, of Chicago. The wish of the committee seemed to be to get the views of the commercial men on the subject of free banking. These gentlemen were unanimous in saying that nothing at free banking could be done under

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FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1870.

THE PRESIDENT OF SAN DOMINGO.

The fractious Washington correspondent of the New York *Herald*, attributes to President Grant an alleged "conversation," on the importance of buying San Domingo, which, if authentic, would attract more wonder than admiration, from the world at large. It opens with the following astounding sentence, in which there are at least five Partingtonisms:

A conversation as extensive and profound as the Pacific Ocean is reported to have taken place between the Tropics.

It is, perhaps, not unusual in our President, to assume that a "government" of which he forms so large a part is "extensive," though we do not remember to have learned the fact from any former President. But that our "government" is "populous," and the United States "populous governments" of ours "contain many things grown only as the tropics," are observations which we are quite sure never struck the mind of any statesman from Hamilton to Jefferson. Our territory is "extensive," though not very "populous," and probably it is our people, rather than either our government of our territory, who consume "tropical products." But we still doubt whether our people are either "extensive" or "populous." These examples of rhetoric show that the *Herald* correspondent is probably selling his own conundrums and not the President's. He continues:

"The population of the country is rapidly increasing, and, as a natural result, the consumption of tropical products is increasing with it. The duties upon the imports of these articles now collected at the ports of entry amount to $70,000,000 annually. The consumption of sugar alone is enormous, and the duties collected upon it during the last year amounted to $30,000,000. If the United States could produce all the sugar consumed by its people, the balance against us in foreign trade would be greatly reduced, and proportionately the prosperity of the country increased. The same is true in all tropical productions. The

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE: FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1868.

THE LAW COURTS.

Administering Telegraphic Consolidation.

Grocery.

Sale to Receive a Safe and a Railway Track.

Report for $25,000 Damaged Against a Railway Company.

CIRCUIT COURT.

THE POLICE COURTS.

THE COUNTY BOARD.

Report of a Young Gentleman to Go to Washington.

Appointment Committee Board of Trade and Railroad Committee.

Two Old Settlers Troubled in Spirit.

Police Matters.

BOARD OF POLICE.

The Board Then Consolidation.

Adjournment Taken.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

MONETARY

Wednesday Evening, March 31.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

REAL ESTATE

THE SUMMER LAND.

Lecture by Rev. A. L. Stone, of Chicago.

Interesting Description of Mr. Stone's Visit to the Celebrated Summer Resort—Its Location—Scenery—Its Hotels—Cottages—Social Life in the Country—Its Future—Its Capacities, Etc.

The Rev. A. L. Stone, of the Tremont Temple, Boston, delivered a lecture last evening at Farwell Hall, entitled "Sunnyside, or Life in the Country." The Chairman of the evening was Mr. Wm. Street—Earle.

Mr. Stone commenced by saying that he had visited Sunnyside, and would tell what he saw there. He had been invited to go there by Mr. Wm. Street, who had purchased a tract of land there, and had built a house, and was about to remove his family there. He had also been invited

INVESTIGATION.

Session of the Committee of Nine—The Normal School Heating and Ventilating Business—Continuation of Architect Winchell's Testimony—He Regards Thomas as Thoroughly Incompetent.

The Court House Sub-Basement Contract.

Affidavit of Thomas McGrath, who "Knows" Mr. Thomas and Reuben Walworth, Treasurer & Purse—How a Contract was Figured Out, Let and "Transferred"—An Interview with Mr. Tenbig.

An Awful Exposure of Fraud.

MORNING SESSION.

The Committee of Nine met yesterday morning. There were present Supervisors Bowen, in the chair; Sauter, Worthington, Waterman, Ashbolt, Teack, and Gage. Supervisor Waterman acted as Secretary.

Mr. Winchell was examined. He produced the plans of the Normal School building, and explained the construction for the benefit of the committee. The plan of the basement showed that an engine house and chimney were originally provided for, but the chimney is built in the wall; the committee, however, decided to do away with the engine house and smoke-stack; originally the chimney was intended to be built at the same time as the building; if he subsequently built the chimney in the building he would have had to tear down part of a wall. The chimney was built of the foundation; the walls were up one story high in September, and the roof was on by the 1st of October; the contract was let before the fire; he expected that they were going to heat the building by steam; he had a conference with the Janitor by between the joint committee and Mr. Thomas.

Superintendent Worthington and the committee went to the Normal School and had that Mr. Thomas knew more than anybody else.

Mr. Winchell then produced the paper submitted to the plans to the board at all; the cost of changing the flue from the north side to the center walls was $1,500; that was merely the extra cost of cutting the flues and the stone for them; the expense was caused by the order of Mr. Thomas, was entirely a change ordered by him; the change could as well be heated by furnaces; the furnaces would cost about $2,000 more than the present heating; including the extra expense incurred in making the change, would cost about $3,000; the furnaces would cost 50 per cent more to run than the steam apparatus; the coils could have been more compact in the corner; the heater would have been in the corridor at all; just around the coils; walls would be about the same as placed in the corridor; Thomas placed the coils in the corridor; Thomas placed the coils in the corridor; Thomas said he was going to see the entire basement for the sake of coils; the committee had a meeting in Winchell's office when Thomas was discharged, and the committee discharged him; Thomas, however, who said he did not know why the building could not be heated complete by the walls; Thomas was again employed, and Mr. Byington's services were dispensed with; he (Winchell) drew up plans, which were to be approved by Mr. Byington and by the committee; the plans were never examined by the committee, as Thomas was dissatisfied before the plans were ready; did not think that the building could be so well heated through the outside as through the inside walls; was one of the main reasons why he left; he was of the same opinion now; the flues he put on the inside walls would answer for steam as well as for furnaces; the valves and connection pipes now on the coils would answer for steam; did not according to the specifications; that was said when he was first employed; Thomas said that Thomas got him to build an engine house; into which the boilers were placed; he said that it had to be both down; he then enlarged the engine house, and had to take it down also; the engine house could be enlarged for the time; that was the second time the engine house was changed, which cost $1,500 instead of $1,000; the contract with Thomas was completed to superintend any work that Thomas had to do; he was in the house as much witness; he was there a fair other times; the superintendent of work; a piece of work that he have waited it every other day; if Thomas had been there when the valves were put in, he could have objected to them at the outset, and have made them put in others; he could not; he was consulted now sustained Mr. Thomas; witness acted in good faith; he thought Mr. Worthington as he thought he could do the work better than Mr. Cassels; he had since changed his opinion; he thought Mr. Grace, and was satisfied that he could do work as well as Mr. Cassels; he could not put it work as good as called for by the contract; Mr. Worthington's opinion was based on his satisfied with the brick; he noticed the fine brickwork in large rooms; for January; the brickwork in large rooms; for January; the engine; the old committee made that change; witness was present when it was made; he had orders from the joint committee to build two brick partitions; and to have the work done; he did not the work should go on; there was easier in that way.

The committee then adjourned until 3 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The committee reassembled at 3 p. m., Supervisor Dolton in the chair. Mr. Winchell was also called. He said that Mr. Winchell told him that the trusses and beams of sufficient strength were strong enough; witness could prove that the floor would bear the weight; he thought that the floor would bear the weight; it would have to bear; it was foolishness to have columns in the original plan; Mr. Wentworth would not have had them.

Mr. Thomas cross-examined Mr. Winchell on the first question. The cross-firing was more lively than the direct examination.

Mr. Thomas testified that Mr. Winchell put in twenty-five flues, and he had put in fifty-one; he had put in fifty-one; he had put in only one-half of the flues on a plan established; were to be used, as the flues on the north can plan had been changed; he had not put out of which was to be used; he had changed the plan; Mr. Winchell testified Mr. Thomas that they wanted to get to heater.

The chief testimony of Thomas and Mr. Winchell was unnecessarily repeated.

Mr. Winchell stated he was blamed for the disconnection of the basement, as he was charged with it in Mr. Thomas's report. He had clearly shown that the fault lay with Mr. Thomas. The only contract he was responsible for, were the bridges, put in to strengthen the floor of the Normal School room. The contract price was about $1,000. He estimated all other extras to the contractors. He had not received any money for them; Cook said until two weeks afterward that contract was let. He said he would not be in the contract with or the schools would freeze; witness was willing to leave the character of the work to the committee; he was willing that they should judge for themselves. Mr. Winchell further stated that the contractors were delayed in finishing their work by the heaters; the contractors were also harassed to see the county for damages. The committee then adjourned until to-morrow morning.

Mr. Winchell said the furniture of the building would cost $5,000. The counties ordered by the joint committee would cost about $1,000. The repair of the floors was rendered necessary by the change in the heating.

Mr. Thomas was admitted to the room again. He said that the contractor was a case of a man who wanted to get the order in the same all-fired hurry he could not do it. He had to put in the valves were too small; Thomas had a letter from the contractor, saying that the valves were too small; Thomas had a letter from the contractor, saying that the valves were too small; Thomas had a letter from the contractor, saying that